

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/865,947

Examiner

Dung V Nguyen

Applicant(s)

FRITZ ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 24 June 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 14-18 and 20-34.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 May 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


DUNG VAN NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Rick L. Franzen on 23 August 2004.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Cancel claims 1, 14 and 15 and replace therefor:

1. An abrasive article comprising:

a backing plate having a first major surface and a second major surface opposite the first major surface, wherein the backing plate is generally circular, wherein the backing plate includes a central aperture extending therethrough, wherein the backing plate comprises a thermoplastic binder material and fibrous reinforcing material; and wherein the article is a flap disc,

an abrasive layer secured to the first major surface of the backing plate; and

a fastener press fitted to the backing plate so as to be concentric with the central aperture, wherein the fastener includes a plurality of

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penetrating members and further wherein each penetrating member pierces the backing plate from the grinding surface side.

14. An abrasive article comprising:

a backing plate having a first major surface and a second major surface opposite the first major surface, wherein the backing plate is generally circular, wherein the backing plate includes a central aperture extending therethrough, wherein the backing plate comprises a thermoplastic binder material and fibrous reinforcing material;

an abrasive layer secured to the first major surface of the backing plate; and

a fastener press fitted to the backing plate so as to be concentric with the central aperture, wherein the fastener includes a plurality of penetrating members and further wherein each penetrating member pierces the backing plate from the grinding surface side, wherein the fastener is shaped to form a Tinnerman nut.

15. An abrasive article comprising:

a backing plate having a first major surface and a second major surface opposite the first major surface, wherein the backing plate is generally circular, wherein the backing plate includes a central aperture

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extending therethrough, wherein the backing plate comprises a thermoplastic binder material and fibrous reinforcing material;
an abrasive layer secured to the first major surface of the backing plate; and
a fastener press fitted to the backing plate so as to be concentric with the central aperture, wherein the fastener includes a plurality of penetrating members and further wherein each penetrating member pierces the backing plate from the grinding surface side, wherein the fastener is shaped to form a Grit-lock nut.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, the article is a flap disc, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claim 1; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, the fastener is shaped to form a Tinnerman nut or a Grit-lock nut, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claims 14 and 15 respectively; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, disposing a fastener having tines so as to be concentric with the central aperture and pushing the tines through the backing plate and folding the tines so as to fixably attach the fastener to the backing plate, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claim 16; prior art of record considered as a whole alone or in combination neither anticipates nor renders obvious, the abrasive layer comprises a substrate and a

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plurality of abrasive particles secured to the substrate by a binder, in combination with the rest of the limitations in claims 17 and 22.


5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung V Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-0036. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 6:30-3:00.

7. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph J Hail can be reached on 703-308-2687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DVN
August 23, 2004


DUNG VAN NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER